City of Detroit

RAQUEL CASTAÑEDA-LÓPEZ COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 6

Statement by Detroit City Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López on House Bill 4052

House Bill 4052, the Local Government Employer Mandate Prohibition Act, negates the Michigan Constitution and the Michigan Home Rule City Act. It prevents local City government from negotiating local development deals. We know to have a thriving economy we must protect workers' rights and a municipalities' right to negotiate development deals in the best interest of their residents; this bill does the exact opposite.

By prohibiting local City governments from passing vital laws and ordinances regarding their municipal concerns, the State is in effect unconstitutionally hindering the power of local City governments. Every City in the State of Michigan is unique and its citizens have differing needs. The local City government is better equipped to determine what the needs of its own local community are more than the overreaching State government. City officials are elected to represent the local community and if the State negates that representation through a broad policy prescription it is essentially undermining the democratic process.

Therefore, I oppose House Bill 4052 as it is unconstitutional and a hindrance on the people of Michigan.